(d) what are the details of terrorist activities in Punjab during the same period and the steps taken to curb them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to available information about 2469 families have moved out of certain areas of Punjab to adjoining States upto 1st December, 1986.

(b) to (d) The Government of Punjab have informed that 109 persons have been killed in 568 violent incidents due to extremist activities during the period 1st August, 1986 to 21st November, 1986. During the same period 550 terrorists have been arrested and 25 killed.

The steps taken to curb terrorist activities in Punjab include intensification of Police patrolling, strengthening of police arrangements in areas prone to extremist violence, raids on the hide-outs of terrorists, their harbourers and associates and deployment of parliamentary forces.

Attacks on Gujarat samachar, etc.

3087. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the views expressed by the Press Council in its meeting held on October 29 last, regarding attacks on the Gujarat Samachar and Western Times the two dailies located in the same compound at Ahmedabad on April 23, 1985;

(b) if so, whether the Council's report indicated that the attacks were engineered by the Police and the Gujarat Government; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The Government have seen Press reports to this effect.

(b) As per the information furnished by the Press Council of India the council did not consider it necessary to come to any final conclusion as to whether the incident was engineered by the local Police.

(c) The Council has reported that the decision in the matter was duly communicated to the Government of Gujarat. Since the matter essentially pertains to the State Government, it is for them to take appropriate action.

Setting up of digital electronic telephone Exchanges

3088. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places where digital electronic telephone exchages have been set up so far;

(b) what steps are underway to set up such exchanges in other places; and

(c) by when such exchanges are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) E 10B Digital local/Tandem Electronic Telephone Exchanges have been set up at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Pathankot and Srinagar.

(b) (i) A factory has been set up at Manakpur, UP to produce E 10B Type digital Local/Tandem Electronic Exchange Equipment. Production has commenced. Equipment from this factory has been allotted to various places in the country.

(ii) Small Electronic Exchanges of NEAX Type have also been imported from Japan for installation at various places.

(iii) ne exchange of 128 port capacity developed by Centre for Development of Telematics (C.DOT) has been installed at Kittoor (Karnataka) for field trial evaluation.